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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/520,013	08/05/2005	Stephen Temple	27754/24867	9262
4743 7590 02/11/2008 MARSHALL, GERSTEIN & BORUN LLP 233 S. WACKER DRIVE, SUITE 6300 SEARS TOWER CHICAGO, IL 60606			EXAMINER NGUYEN, LAM S	
			ART UNIT 2853	PAPER NUMBER
			MAIL DATE 02/11/2008	DELIVERY MODE PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/520,013

Applicant(s)

TEMPLE, STEPHEN

Examiner

LAM S. NGUYEN

Art Unit

2853

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 28 December 2007.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-37 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 1-24 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 31 and 32 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 25-30 and 33-37 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB-08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____

- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(c), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(c) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 12/28/2007 has been entered.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

1. Claims 25-26, 33-34, and 37 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Mantell et al. (EP 0 767 061 B1).

Regarding to claims 25, 33:

Mantell et al. discloses a method of ink jet printing a representation on a print medium of an array of print data pixels (*FIG. 12: Each ink drop forms a pixel*) comprising the steps of distributing print data from said array of print data pixels over an array of super pixels (*FIG. 12, element 124: The super pixels is formed by an overlapped pair of ink drops*) in a distribution function such that each super pixel receives a print data contribution from at least two print data pixels (*FIG. 12, element 124: Because each super pixels is formed by an overlapped pair of ink drops, print data for a super pixel is contributed from print data corresponding to the pair of ink*

drops) and each print data pixel contributes print data to at least two super pixels (FIG. 12: As shown by reference 126, each ink drop (pixel) overlaps with at least two other ink drops (pixels); In other word, print data associated to each ink drop (pixel) contributes print data to at least two or three super pixels); and forming print pixels on the medium such that each print pixel receives print contribution from at least two super pixels, wherein each of print pixel corresponds to the area of overlap of said at least two super pixels (FIG. 12: Regarding to reference 126, because each ink drop (pixel) joins to other adjacent ink drops to form/correspond to at least two super pixels, each ink drop receives contribution from those two super pixels).

Regarding to claims 26, 34: wherein each super pixel receives a print data contribution from at least three print data pixels (FIG. 13-14).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 27-30, 35-36 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mantell et al. (EP 0 767 061 B1) in view of Silverbrook (WO 02/02330 A1).

Mantell et al. discloses the claimed invention as discussed above except wherein the print data contribution varies in sign between said print data pixels, wherein the at least two super pixels from which a print pixel receives print contribution, receive print data contributions from different combinations of print data pixels, further comprising the step of measuring the print

efficiency of each super pixel, distribution function includes comprising distributing the measured print efficiency as print data.

Silverbrook discloses a printing method operated in an ink jet printing apparatus in which super pixels are formed on a printing medium accordantly to print efficiency by contributing from different combination or varying in sign of print data pixels (*FIGs. 3 and 5: The super pixels are formed by combination of multiple pixels 24 accordantly to the print efficiency due to the defective failure of a nozzle*).

Therefore, it would have been obvious for one having ordinary skill in the art at the time invention was made to modify Mantell's printing apparatus to include measuring print efficiency and forming pixels accordantly as disclosed by Silverbrook. The motivation for doing so would have been to compensate for failure of ink ejection from a nozzle to correctly print dots of ink at specific locations as taught by Silverbrook (*page 1, lines 28-30*).

Allowable Subject Matter

3. Claims 31-32 are allowed and the reason for allowance was indicated in the previous office action.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments filed 12/28/2007 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

The applicant, based on the assertion that Mantel et al.'s invention did not fill a gap if one of the actuators failed to cause ink ejection, argued that Mantel did not teach or suggest the claimed invention. It is the examiner's point of view that since the claim does not include such

language, the applicant's argument based on such language is over commensurate the scope of the claim.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to LAM S. NGUYEN whose telephone number is (571)272-2151. The examiner can normally be reached on 7:00AM - 3:30PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, STEPHEN D. MEIER can be reached on (571)272-2149. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/LAM S NGUYEN/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2853